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THE

PENNSYLVANIA MAGAZINE

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PENN *versus* BALTIMORE.

JOURNAL OF JOHN WATSON, ASSISTANT SURVEYOR TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE PROVINCE OF PENNSYLVANIA, 1750.

BY JOHN W. JORDAN

In the Manuscript Division of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, are preserved, particularly among the "Penn Papers" and "Peters Papers," many of the documents connected with the case of Penn *vs.* Baltimore,—the long contest over the boundary line between the Provinces of Pennsylvania and Maryland. Among these are the minutes of the joint Commissions, which met at New Castle, Delaware, in November of 1750, their account of expenditures, and the Journal of Surveyor Watson, valuable for the details which it contains in the efforts to adjust the differences between the disputing parties.

The Commissioners representing Pennsylvania at this conference were William Allen, Thomas Hopkinson, Richard Peters, Thomas Cookson, Ryves Holt, (of Lewes, Del.), Benjamin Chew and Tench Francis, in the place of John Kinsey deceased. William Parsons was appointed Chief Surveyor and clerk of the Commission; John Watson and William Killen, Assistant Surveyors and Chain bearers, and Theophilus Grew, mathe-

matician; Surveyor General Nicholas Scull was also in attendance.

The Commissioners representing Maryland, were: Benedict Calvert, Edmund Jennings, Robert Jenkins Henry, John Ross, Benjamin Tasker Jr., George Plater and Daniel Dulaney Senr. Thomas Smyth was appointed their clerk. Messrs. Jennings and Ross had served on an earlier Commission.

William Allen, with Richard Peters as his guest, came down from Philadelphia on his yacht, and among "the necessaries for the use of the Commissioners," was Port Wine, invoiced at £16.—Commissioners Hopkinson and Francis, and Parsons, Scull and Grew, with their servants and horses, found en route, quarters at the tavern of James Mather in Chester, and later, all the Commissioners from Pennsylvania were entertained for ten days at the hostelry of Ezekiel Boggs, in New Castle.

The Commissioners of the two Provinces met for conference in the "Assembly Chamber" of the Court House, New Castle, Delaware, on Thursday 15, November, 1750, all those from Pennsylvania being present, but from Maryland, only Messrs Calvert, Jennings, Henry and Ross attended this first meeting. Serious difficulties were soon developed by Lord Baltimore's representatives, who claimed that the "first thing necessary was to find the middle of the town of New Castle, in order from thence as a centre to draw the circle directed by the articles and commissions." This was referred and two days later the "Court House was agreed on as the middle of the town." They furthermore raised the questions whether the twelve miles were to be a radius or the periphery, and as to the true location of Cape Henlopen. The location of Cape Henlopen, had been a subject of serious, protracted and expensive litigation, particularly after the deaths of William Penn and Lord Baltimore. On November 24, the Pennsylvania Commissioners "pro-

pose an adjournment to meet at Cape Henlopen on the tenth day of March next, which is not agreed to by the Commissioners of Lord Baltimore, who propose to meet at Cape Henlopen on the 22d. day of April next, to which the Commissioners of the Province of Pennsylvania agree and accordingly adjourned to the 22d day of April at Cape Henlopen." The result of this conference therefore, was to suspend proceedings.

The late J. H. B. Latrobe Esq., of Baltimore, in his address before the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, November 8, 1854, on the "Mason and Dixon Line," referring to the failure of the conference of November 1750, states: "Now Lord Baltimore did what neither improved his cause nor bettered his reputation. Treating his own deed as a nullity, he asked George II for a confirmatory grant according to the terms of the Charter of 1632. It was very properly refused, and the parties were referred to the Court of Chancery, and here Lord Hardwicke decided in effect, that the true Henlopen was the point insisted on by the Penns; that the centre of the circle was the middle of New Castle, as near as it could be ascertained, and that the twelve miles were a radius and not the periphery."

The long controversy between the two Provinces was finally closed in 1760-1761, when Charles Dixon and Jeremiah Mason appear on the scene.

9 mo 13. [1750.]

This morning set from home ab^{t} 10. rech Baldwin's ab^{t} 1. I Baited my Creature, and Got some Drink, cost 10. came into Town ab^{t} sun set to the Surveyor Gen^{l} who was just going to meet Mr. Markham a great Mathematition from Maryland, met Scull again at the indian Queen ab^{t} 8. who told us they should proceed on their journey ab^{t} nine, a Cloudy Day and likely to rain.

14th got up and Bought a Silk Cap a p^{r} [worn] and a p^{r} of Sleve Buttons 2 Memorandum Books ½ a Quire

of paper and Stick of Sealing Wax. £ 1. 5. 9.—set forward towards Chester about ½ h° after 1. rode smartly and reach'd Chester ab^{t} Sun set lodged at one Mather all night in Company wth Nick.Scull, Theo Grew, Thomas Hopkinson, Tench Francis, W^{m} Parsons, one Markham—a Gentleman from Maryland. Spent this Evening in some philosophical Discourses, concerning Diseases, the propogation of them, the admirable properties of them [worn].

15th. Set out ab^{t} 9 for New Castle where we came ab^{t} 1 in the Evening or afternoon. Dined at one Bogges I think they call the L. Lord with W^{m} Parsons, N. Scull Sam^{l} Peters, and [worn]. After Dinner got in readiness to try to find a Meridian w^{ch} was essayed after this manner a Candle being placed in a Lanthern on the Top of a Chimney and a plumet suspended on a kind of a Gallows raised for that purpose it was carefully observed at what time the last Star in the Tail of the Little Bear and Aliot in the Tail of the Great Bear together wth the Candle placed as ab^{e} came into the same Azimuth Circle at which Time Viz 'a 8^{ho} 30 'p.m. the Stars were on the Meridian. upon settli^{g} up the Candle Parson Malcomb objected to the Method considering the Glaringness of the Light w^{ch} in his opinion rendred an Accurate Observation thereof impractable w^{ch} being reported to the Com^{rs} we were (notwithstanding the Sutableness of the Air for such an Experim^{t} considered) Ordered to proceed: w^{ch} we did and reported the same to them wth no small Incomiums on Our own performance. But we all desired the Com^{rs} would be pleased to Attend on some such Experim^{t} themselves by w^{ch} more than by Words they would be thoroughly convinced of the demonstrative Accuracy of the Method. a fine clear Day throughout.

9 ^{mo} 16.

This Day in the Forenoon we spent chiefly in walking about the Town observing the motion of

the Marylanders who began to measure the length of several of the Streets of the Town as was supposed in Order to make some Estimate of the Situation of the Center thereof. after Dinner they Began a Survey thereof in manner one form, the Surveyor an elderly Gentleman one Emroy—and proceeded as the Notes taken upon the Spot by my self & entred in the End of this Book shows. But night coming on they were obliged to leave before it was compleated this Evening was spent plañing so much of their Survey as was performed, w^ch^ was done by one Gillan and my self, and the Calculation by my self alone. This Day was cloudy for the most part but cleared up without Rain in the Evening, and the Gentlemen while we were about the Maryland Survey made a second observation to find a Meridian w^ch^ they found exactly corresponding w^th^ that made last Night. N. B. for the Greater Accuracy in Observation they Obscured part of the Lanthorn. Which Agreement of Observations it seems one Leeds A Mathematician chosen on Behalf of L^d^ Baltimore took as a Reason that the Method made use of by Our Mathematician for Discovery of a Meridian Line was false—O horrendum dictu!*

17.—this Morning early the Surveyors on the part of his Lordship proceeded to compleat their Survey of w^ch^ Notes were taken as afores^d^. after w^ch^ I proved the Survey and found the same nearly to answer w^th^ the Truth Differing only 1.7 in respect of Lat: to the Southward and, 9 in. Longitude to the Eastw^d^, after this was finished s^d^ Surveyors privately measured or estimated the Length of 3 More Courses w^ch^ they Aded to the East Side of their Survey begining 38 perches from the Beg^g^ of the S. W. Course and thence extending S. 38° E 6 p^e^ and then S. W 47⅛ p^e^ and N 38° W 6 p into the South west Course again, a Copy of w^ch^ they

* In the Pennsylvania accounts there is a charge of 15 shillings for "fixing a lanthern to the Vane of the State House, to fix a meridian line." *Ms. in Hist. Soc. of Penna.*

Delivered to our Com^{rs} in the afternoon. N. B. this addition was made to take in p^{rt} of the Water Street.

I also made a plan of said Survey in w^{ch} was prickt off the place in w^{ch} the Court House Stood as taken down in the Notes. as also the Center of said Town in respect of East and West and N. and South and found the same about 9. P. to the Northward of the Court House and 1.25 P. to the Westward, Which Plan was presented to Our Comm^{rs} wth this Title a plan of a Survey of the Town of New Castle as made by Mr. Emory and other Surveyors on the part of the L^{d} Baltimore in presence and by Direction of Mess^{rs} Malcolm & Leeds Mathematitians employed by his Lordship's Com^{rs} on the 16th & 17th Days of Novemb^{r} 1750.

This Title was Drawn by W^{m} Parsons, a very ingenious Gentleman. Yesterday the Com^{rs} Met in the Court House where their Com^{s} were Read. to Day they Met again and after some Debate agreed that the Center of the Court House should be taken for the Center of New Castle then arose a Question Between them whether the 12 Miles mentioned [worn] to be run Westward from said Town should be Superficial Measure or Horizontal. In the Plan of the survey presented to Our Com^{rs} by the Maryland Survey^{rs} they only made a punct. in the plan w^{ch} we found to be designed for the Situation of the Court House. This Day was spent very chearfully and pleasantly the Gentlemen & all concerned on Our part being high Glee. a fine Day. Got shaved in the Evening paid 6^{d}.

9 ^{mo} 18.

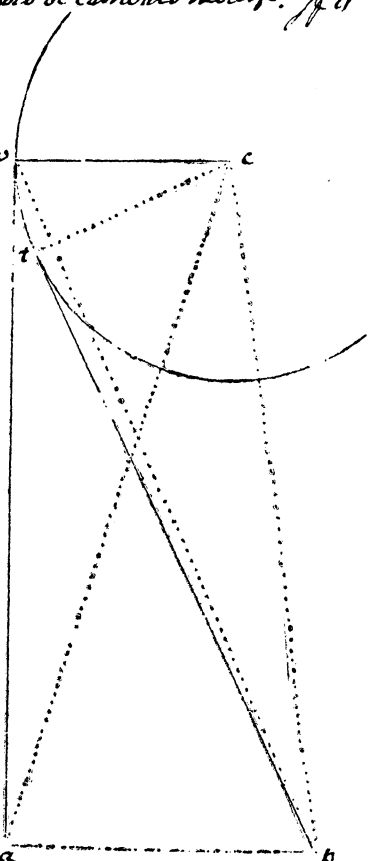
This being the first Day of the Week some of the Commissioners went to Church where Parson Malcolm preacht, for my Own part stayed at home busie'd ab^{t} taking Copies of Draughts &c^{a} a Sail was discryed—early in the morning w^{ch} came up ab^{t} Nine said to be one Captain Mitchel. The Commissioners on both sides had some Conferences to Day the Mary-

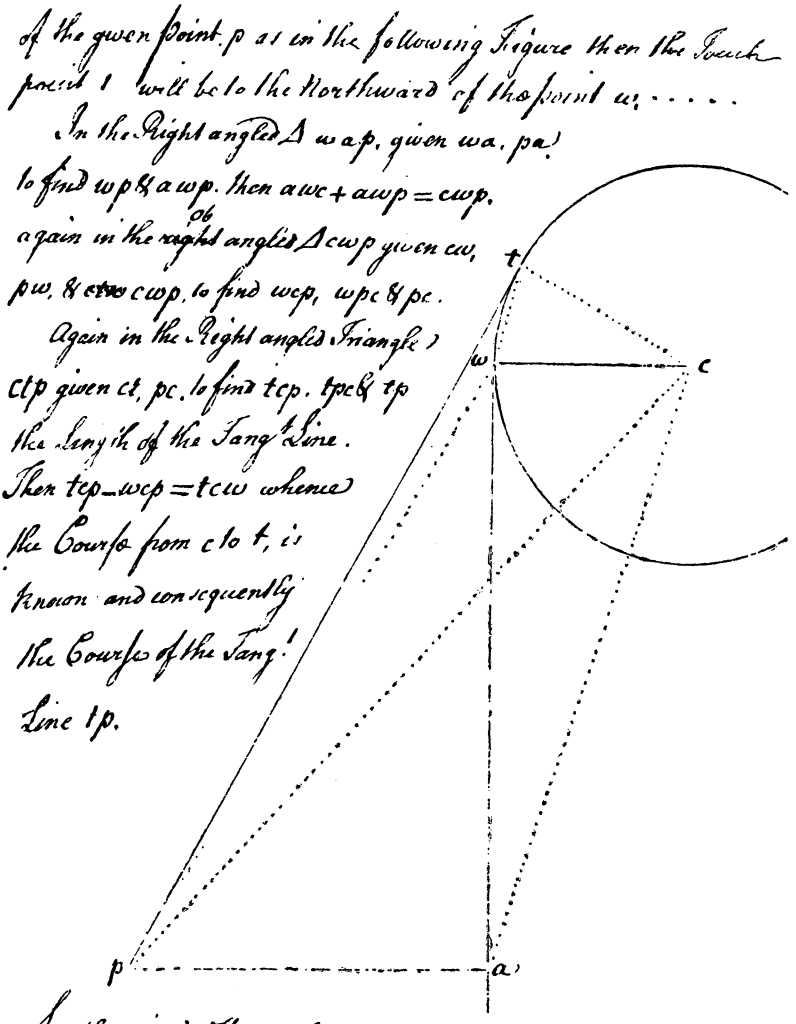
landers still insisting on their Superficial Measure and Ours refusing to join y^m^ in it. The Com^rs^ of Lord Baltimore declining to give any Reason for their Defeat declaring themselves to be unequal to the Debate w^th^ Our Com^rs^ but as they said they were informed it was practicable to Run a Circular Line by superficial Measure by some proportion to be made between the several Radii of the Circle they should not condiscend to Horizontal Measure tho' they Never proposed how such a Circle might be drawn. W^ch^ Theo. Grew Our Mathematician by sound Argum^t^ Drawn from the proportion of a Demonstrated impossible in a paper presented to Our Commissioners. a fine Day. This Evening Theo Grew presented me w^th^ the 180^th^ Method for find^g^ y^e^ point of Contact w^ch^ will be inserted hereafter.

19.—This Morning rose early and after Brakefast proceeded immediately by W^m^ Parson's Theodolite to Discover the Variation of the Needle, and at 10^ho^ 30 A. M. found the Variation thereof by Needle No. 2 4° West then we returned to our Lodging, and taking out the Other Needles at 30′ after 11. found the Variation of No. 2 4° at ab^t^ 11 h^o^ found the Variation by No. 1. 5° & at ab^t^ 12 h^o^ by No. 3. 4° 22′. Note on the 12^th^ of this Instant @ philadelphia the Variation was found by Nedles No. 1 & No. 2. 4° 50′ and the same Day at 5 ho. P. M. the Variation by the same Needles was found to be 5° exactly. to Day W^m^ Parsons desired me to take a Copy for him of Theo: Grew's method of finding the point of Contact, and promised me to procure me Captain Hopkinson's method for doing the same Thing. Notae the Watches at the Time of Observation toDay I suppose were ab^t^ 20′ too fast. There was some Discourse among the Surveyors before the Center was fixt of Making the Center of Gravity the Center w^ch^ it seems is such a point in Any Figure as the same may be horizontally Suspended by the Method of Doing w^ch^ is laid down in Stow's Mathematical Dictionary—

Let a Circle or part of a Circle be supposed to be drawn 12 Miles Distant from New Castle, it is required to draw a Tang.t to the said Circle on the West side to hit a given point to the Southward without the Circle, - - -

Let there be run a Course duelWest or near it 12 Miles in Length horizontally from the Center of the Circle to the — periphery as c. w. then let a right line be run from the point w. at right Angles to the Radius & if it hit the given point t is the Line required. If it does not hit the Given point. the Line will fall either to the Westward or Eastward thereof. If it fall to the Westward as the Line w. o. then the Tang.t point t will be to the Southward of the point w. In the right angled Δ. w a p. given w a. p a. to find w p and a w p. then a w c - a w p = c w p. again in the oblic Δ c w p. given c w. w p. and c w p. to find w c p. w p c, & p c. again in the right angled Δ c t p. given c t. c p. to find t c p. t p c and p t the Length of the Tang.t Line, then w c p - t c p. = to t c w whence the Course from c to t is known and consequently the Course of the Tang.t Line t p will be known also. Lastly in the Joscales Δ w c t given w c, t c. and all the L.s to find w t whence you will have the Course from w to t. But if the Line w c, fall to the Eastw.d





Of the given point p as in the following Figure then the Fourth point t will be to the Northward of the point w. . . . .

In the Right angled Δ w a p, given wa, pa to find wp & awp. then awc + awp = cwp.

or

again in the right angled Δ cwp given cw, pw, & ~~etw~~ cwp. to find wcp, wpc & pc.

Again in the Right angled Triangle ctp given ct, pc. to find tcp. tpc & tp the Length of the Tang^t Line. Then tcp − wcp = tcw whence the Course from c to t, is known and consequently the Course of the Tang^t Line tp.

Lastly in the Isoceles Δ wct given cw, ct and the angles to find wt whence you will know the Course and Distance from w to t.

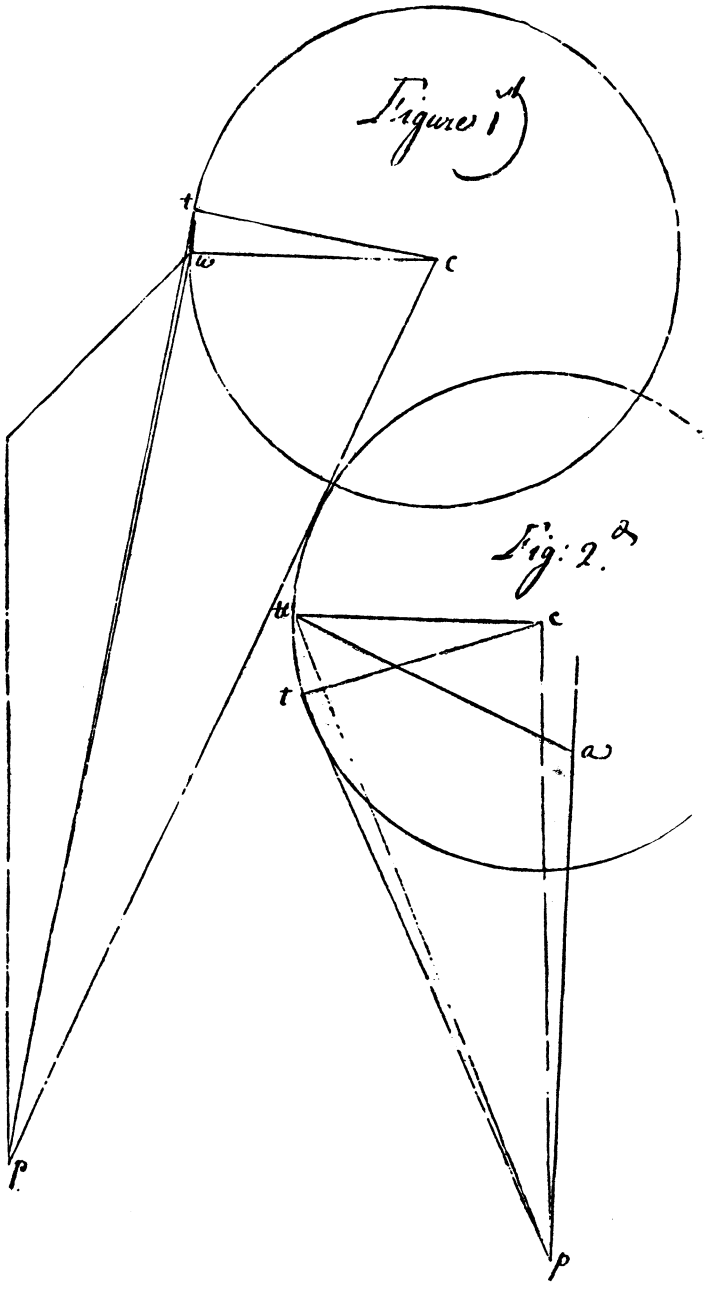


Figure 1st
t
w
c
Fig: 2.d
w
c
t
a
p
p

In the Triangle *w a p.* right angled or oblique these will be had *wa. pa.,* and the angle *a* to find *w p* and *a w p.* then *a w c*—*a w p* = *c w p* Fig. 1st and *a w c.* + *a w p.* = *c w p.* Fig. 2d Again in the oblic angled Triangle *c w p.* there will be given *c w. w p* and *c w p.* to find *w c p ., w p c.* and *p c.* Then in the right angled Triangle *c t p.* there will be given *t c., p c.* to find *t c p.* and *t p.* the Length of the Tangent Line. Then *t c p.* — *w c p.* = *t c w.* in fig 1st and *w c p.* — *t c p.* = *t c w.* in Fig. 2d

Whence the Course from *c.* to *t.* is known and consequently the true Course of the Tangent line *t p.* lastly in the Isosceles ◿ *w c t.* there is given *w c., t c.* and all the angles to find *w t,* whence you will have the Course and Distance from *w.* to *t.*

19th 9mo

This Day at 10ho A.M. the Comrs met at the Court House in the assembly Chamber and taking into Consideration the Method of Runing and Measuring the 12 Miles west from New Castle Center. The Commissioners of Lord Baltimore proposed the Runing of divers Radii Superficial Measure and to take a Mean proportion Between their horozontal Distances and on that mean Distce to Run the perefery horozontally. To wch Our Commissioners refused to give their Assent as being contrary to the express Words of the Articles drawn between Ld Baltimore and the Honorable the Proprietaries of the Province of Pennsylvania. Upon this it was concluded that the Comrs on Both sides should draw up their Reasons in form & in Writing signed and ready to exchange with each other by to morrow at 11 in the morning.

Abt 4 in the after Noon the Surveyor Genl, Saml Lightfoot, Theophilus Grew, and my self went out to the Meridian Line Drawn on the 15th and took the New Theodilite and Needle N° 2 in Order to Discover the

Variation of the Needle thereby and in presence of Thos Cookson Esqr John Ross Esqr and other Gentlemen we found the Variation 4° 27′ this Variation was not very accuratly taken, and not much to be relyed on after Our Return Secretary Peters a fine Courteous Gentleman a true Friend to the Proprietary and Tenants as far as I am able to judge came to the Surveyors in their Chamber and expressed a good deal of Uneasieness at the Conduct of Ld Baltimore's Comrs who as he thought not only contrary to reason but also Justice who were thus for continuing the Dispute. a Cloudy Day for the most part and near Bedtime semed likely to snow tomorrow.—

20 Novr @ 9ho 45′ A. M.

Observed the Variation by Wm Parson's Theodolite & Needle No. 1 and found the Variation thereby 4° 40′ @ 10 observed the Variation by the New Theodolite Needle No° 2 and found the Variation thereby 4° 34′ these Observations were made with the Greatest Accuracy. @. abt 11ho 45. Tried Wm Parson's Theo. Needle No° 2 and found the Variation 4° 22′ by Needle No° 3 4° 15′ at about 12ho 15′ P. M. tried the Variation by Needle No° 1 again and the same was 5° I think this Needle is too wide in the Cap & is not always suspended on the same Point @ abt ¼ after 3 P. M. by the New Theo. Needle No. 1. 4° 34′ P W. Ps Theo: Needle No° 1 abt ¼ after 3, 4° 51′ & Needle No° 2. 4° 17′ No° 3. 4° 17′. This morning lookt like for Rain and Rained a little in the Morning but towards Noon began to clear away and was a fine afternoon. Saml Lightfoots Son arived toDay abt 12 from Doublin had an 8 Weeks Passage. Dined with us and another young irish Gentleman who came in with him. This Morning as the Men drove their Creatures to water my Mare was discovered to be very lame in her far hind foot or pastern. The Commissioners met again to Day according to their

Adjournm^{t} and the Reasons of the Com^{rs} on the part of his Lords^{p} were delivered to them w^{ch} were delivered in these Words.

Reasons of the Com^{rs} of L^{d} Baltimore for not agreeing to an horozontal but for insisting on a superficial Admeasurem^{t} of the 12 english Statute Miles in the 2^{d} Art^{le} of the Agreem^{t}

1st That Statute Miles are always measured on the superfices, and those Words having explained what Miles were intended by that Article the same manner of Measure ought to be made of the same kind of Miles.

2^{d} That the 15 english Statute Miles mentioned in the 5th Article cannot by a fair and Natural Construction be understood or pretended to be any other than superficial Miles and therefore the Meaning of those Words statute Miles and of the parties in the 5th ought not to be different in understanding the same Words in the 2^{d} Article.

3. That it seems as great an absurdity to make the Meas^{e} of an english Statute Mile under Ground or in the Air as it would be that a Deg. of Lat. should be taken upon the surface of the Earth.

4. That the Com^{rs} of the prop^{r} of pennsylv^{a} having urged the impracticableness of mak^{g} a Circle from several Radii run superficially, the Com^{rs} of L^{d} Baltimore are advised by their Mathematicians and surveyors that the same is practicable in the following Manner Viz! That as 12 Miles taken on the Surface in Different Directions will be at different horozontal Distances from the Center, Therefore the horozontal Distances Corisponding to 12 Miles taken on the surface in such several Directions and different circumstances of the Ground as shall be agreed upon being taken and their sum divided by their Number the Quotient may be an horozontal Radius for the Circle.

5th That if the 12 Statute Miles should be run horozontally a great^{r} Distance than 12 Superficial Miles

from New Castle and a much larger Quantity of Land would be very probably gained by the Prop^{y} of pennsylv^{a} than would be gained by Lord Baltimore upon the Medium of the Horozontal Distances of 12 superficial Statute Miles.

6th That the universal practice of measuring Land in Virginia as well as Maryland is upon the superficies without any allowance for the inequality of the Ground, and if any such allowance be made in Pennsylvania w^{ch} the Com^{rs} for L^{d} Baltimore know nothing of and never heard before what was mentioned by one of the Commissioners for the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania yet such allowance did not arise from the Nature of Surveying and measuring of Land but as an Incourgem^{t} to the purchasers and new Settlers and cannot affect the 2^{d} or 6th article

New Castle Nov^{r} 20th 1750.

To

W^{m} Allen		Benedict Calvert
Tho^{s} Hopkinson		Edm: Jennings
Rich^{d} Peters		D. Dulaney
Thos Cookson	Esq^{rs}	Rob^{t} Jenckin Henry
Ryves Holt		Jn^{o} Ross.
Benj. Chew		
Tench Francis		

Gentlemen

Our Commissions authorize us to run and lay out Part of a Circle according to the Articles of Agreem^{t}, and the Directions given in the Decree of the Rt. Hon^{ble} the Lord high Chancellor of great Brittain.

By the Articles it is agreed that there shall be so much of a Circle as is requisite drawn and markt out at 12 Miles Distance from the Town of New Castle which 12 Miles shall be 12 english statute Miles and the Decree directs the Circle to be of a Rad^{s} or semediam-

iter of 12 Miles 2 different modes of expressing the same Thing and in both the Words so clear that in Our Opinions any endeavour to explain will rather serve to obscure than illustrate them.

The execution of this only is committed to us, and y^{t} we apprehend it as facile and easie as the Words are plain for if a line or Radius be run horozontally due West or some other Course near it the Distance of 12 english Statute Miles from the Center we have fixed, and other Radii be supposed drawn equidistant from the Center mak^{g} angles wth each oy^{r} of one Degree sufficient to form a supposed Circle in all theirExtremities they will divide the perefery into 360 equal parts whose Chords or subtenses will be equal to each other if then from the End of y^{e} West Line the Chord of one Degree be run y^{e} Length & Course of w^{ch} can be exactly computed by Trigonometry, and in the same Manner Chord Lines be run to so many Archs of the perefery as may be requisite one shall run and lay out a part of a regular polygon so nearly to the part of the Circle required that the Diff^{e} will be inconsiderable and that Difference will be to the loss of the proprietaries of Pennsylvania w^{ch} we apprehend they must submit to in regard of the impractability of laying out the Circle or any part of it exactly.

By runing the Radii horozontally & proceeding in the Method ab^{o} mentioned or some other like to it w^{ch} we shall gladly accept from you we conceive the Words of the Articles and the Directions in the Decree will be effectually complyed with for we shall thereby in Effect draw the part of the Circle required at 12 english Statute Miles Distance from the Center the Radius of semidiameter of w^{ch} Circle will be 12 english Statute Miles from both which we conceive we must evidently and considerably depart if we draw the Circle on the Terminations of Superficial Radii admitting it for argument Sake to be practicable.

Tuesday 20th of Novembr

1750.

To Benedict Calvert
Edmund Jennings
Daniel Dulaney Senr
Robert Jenkins Henry
and John Ross
} Esqrs

Wm Allen
Thos Hopkinson
Richd Peters
Thos. Cookson
R'. Holt
Benj Chew
Tench Francis.

Adjourned to 11 o'Clock tomorrow Morning.

Novr 21st

21st 9ho @ 32′ past 10 A M by W. P.'s Theo: Needle No 1. 4° 46′—No 2. 4° 15′ @ 11ho 5′ @ 15 past 11.—No 3 4° 14′. p the New Theo: Needle—No 4 @ 39′ past 11. 4° 30 or 31. This Forenoon was chiefly spent in Making the abv Observations—

Secretary Peters lent Me an Eye piece to assist my Sight in the Experiment—

This Morning was Cloudy and cool but towards the Begining of these observations began to clear away grew clear & moderate and the Sun Shone out.

W. Ps Needles.	New Theodolite.
@ 3ho 35, No 1 4° 40′	@ 4ho 15. 4° 32′ No 1.
46 No 2 4. 15	Note the air to Day was
57 No 3 4. 10	Still & somewt Moister &

Cooler than Yesterday & continues to Moisten or grow moister, wch Time the Variation grew Less.

this Morning Copied a Certificate for the Surveyors and spent most of the other part of the Day in the foregoing Observations,—drew a Copy of one of the Cases for finding the Tangent Point.

22 Novembr A M.

Last Night it snowed, & this Morning it almost covered the Ground this Morning there has been much Discourse concerning going to work.

W P^{s} Theo:		New Theo.
Needle N^{o} 1 11.20 A M.	4° 40′	Needle N^{o} 1
N^{o} 2	4° 4′	@ 12^{h} 35′ 4° 36′
N^{o} 3 @ 12.15′	4° 15′	

This Difference of Needle N^{o} 2 & N^{o} 3 seems owing to a very Suddain Change of Air.

When I went out first to make these Observations the Air was cool and agitated by the Wind, and yet so thick as rendred it difficult to see the Lanthern thro it; When the observation was made by the second Needle the Air clear and stiller; when by the third the Air yet cooler not quite so clear but more Windy.

On the 8th of Nov^{r} by the New Theo: Needles N^{o} 1 & 2. found the Variation @ Philad^{a} 4° 46′ each 9th Day in the Morn^{g} by Needle N^{o} 2 5° 15′ and in the afternoon 5° 10′ the Air Hasey the 12th about Noon found the Variation by Needle N^{o} 1 4° 48′ by Needle N^{o} 2 4° 42′.

Nov^{r} 22^{d} P. M.

at about three went out and Carried W^{m} Parson's Theo. to the Meridian and by Needle N^{o} 3 found the Variation 4° 15′ at my first going out, & screwing the Instrum^{t} fast let it stand in the same Position till Sun set, during all which Time could not descern the least alteration in the Direction of the Needle.

At the Beg^{g} of this Observation the Air was clear and Serene, but grew Cloudy towards Sun set & gradually cooler.

This Evening about Nine we received the Ans^{r} of Lord Baltimore's Commissioners to the Reasons offered to them Yesterday in support of horizontal Measure by which I was brought to expect there would be nothing done Respecting the Line this Season.

Note the Point in the Maryland Plan, mentioned in these Notes before and supposed designed to represent the Situation of the Court House, was since discovered

to be intended for the Center of Gravity of the Town of New Castle, which it seems the Maryland Surveyors and Mathematicians attempted to find in this rediculous Manner Viz^{t}—having made an exact plan of the Survey of the Town; upon a Piece of Paper, they carefully pared away the Edges by the Draught, untill no more than the Draught was left, when sticking a Pin thro it, they suspended it—thereby in different places untill they found a place whereby it might be suspended horizontally, w^{ch} Point or place they accepted as the Center of Gravity.

Novemb^{r} 23^{d}

at 8 in the Morning took the Variation p W. Parson's Theo. Needle N^{o} 3 and found the same to be 4° 15′ the Air cool clear & Still, by the New Theo. Needle N^{o} 1. 4° 35′ @ ab^{t} 9 in the Morn.

At a Meet^{g} of the Com^{rs} on thursday the 15th Day of November 1750, in the Assembly Chamber at New Castle.

Present

Benedict Calvert	Esq^{rs}	W^{m} Allen	Esq^{rs}
Edm. Jennings		Tho^{s} Hopkinson	
Robert Henry		Rich^{d} Peters	
John Ross		Thos. Cookson	
		Ryves Holt	
		Benj Chew	
		Tench Francis	

The Com^{rs} of the R. hon^{ble} the L^{d} Baltimore to Benedict Calvert. Benj^{a} Tasker Jun^{r} Edm Jennings Dan^{l} Dulaney Sen^{r} Rob^{t} Henry, Geo. Plater and J^{no} Ross Esq^{rs} And of the Hon^{ble} the proprietors of Penn^{a} to John Kinsey W^{m} Allen Thos. Hopkinson, Rich^{d} Peters Tho^{s} Cookson Ryves Holt and Benj^{a} Chew Esq^{r} constitut^{g} and appoint^{g} them or any 6, 5, 4 or 3 them respectively their Com^{rs} for the running, marking and laying out part of a Circle and the Division Lines

between the province of Maryland & the province of Pennsylvania & Co^{tys} of New Castle Kent & Sussex on Delaware were read and found to agree wth Each oy^{r} in Tenor and Date.

Then a Commission of the hon^{ble} James Hamilton Esq^{r} Governour of the province of Pennsylvania to Tench Francis Esq^{r} constituting and appt^{s} him a Com^{r} in the stead of John Kinsey Esq^{r} Dec^{d} was likewise read.

Agreed by the Unanimous Consent of the Com^{rs} That 2 Clerks one to be Chosen by each side shall attend & enter fair Minuts of their proceedings w^{ch} Minuts shall de die in Diem be signed by all the Com^{rs} present in each Book and that one of these Books shall be kept by y^{e} Com^{rs} of the L^{d} proprietary of Maryland and the other by the Com^{rs} of the proprietaries of Pennsylvania.

Further Unanimously agreed that y^{e} 1st Thing Necessary was to find the Middle of the Town of New Castle in Order from thence as a Center to Draw the Circle directed in the Articles and Commissions, this afternoon I spent in Copying the answ^{r} of Our Commissioners to the Com^{rs} of Maryland and in Transcribing the Minuts in Order for send^{g} them to the proprietors in England by a Vessel now lying in the River.

24th

this morning finished y^{e} Copy of the min. and afterwards went out and tried the Variation by W^{m} Parson's Theo. Needle No 3 @ 9 A. M. and found the same 4° 8′ and @ 11^{ho} 30°′ by the New Theo: Needle N° 1 4° 35′ The air clear, a little Windy and very cold, a little before Dinner received by the Surveyor Gen^{rl} an Acco^{t} that the Surveyors were at their Liberty, to go when they pleased.

P. M.

This afternoon employed in Transcribing more Papers to be sent to the proprietaries, and the Com-

missioners on both sides met about 4 o'Clock and Continued Sitting untill ab^{t} 10. When they brook up Or adjourned till the 22^{d} of April next.

The Secretary came into our Room after Supper and acquainted me that the Com^{rs} on Part of the prop^{rs} of Pennsylvania had app^{td} me to assist W^{m} Parsons in Runing a Line from Cape Henlopen a Cross the Peninsula and withall told me to meet him to Morow Morning @ his Chamber about Sun Rise & that I must Consult W^{m} Parsons & y^{e} Maryland Surveyors respecting the Time of Setting out on the Expedition. soon after W^{m} Parsons came in and told me the Time appointed for the Surveyors meet^{g} at the Cape was the 20th of December next.

Nov^{r} 25th 1750.

This Morning I arose early and went to the Secretary accord^{g} to his Direction & he paid or rather presented me with a very competent Sum of Money in Consid^{n} of my attendance at New Castle for these 9 or Ten Days past,—returned again to my Lod^{g} and immediately got ready to return to Philad^{a}—set forward @ ab^{t} 30′ after Nine—reacht Christean Ferry 30′ after 10.—at Chester @ 1½° Clock Ferrage 3^{d}½ Dined there fed my Creature— & at about 2 °Clock set forward to Philada^{a}—a little above Derby met a Wagon wth the Corps of a man rolld up in a Bed lying therein, kill'd yesterday by a Cart Wheel Runing over him as he was return^{g} from Market.—came to W^{m} Greys @ the Conestoga Wagon @ about 5. where I lodged, Gave the Hostler when I left Boggs's at New Castle in the Morn^{g} 1s. and paid for my Ferrage at Schuylkill . . 2^{d}.

Nov^{r} 26

	£	s	d
Bought of R. Moore Cloth	3	2	19
John Ord 2^{d} Street Buttons		4	3
Recon^{g} @ Lod^{g}		4	5

Set out of Philadelphia Between 2 & 3 Clock in Company with my Kinsman Ezekiel Potts who came up with me as far as Benjamin Armitages and falling into Discourse concerning the small Pox. He told me that never any Person was more fearful & terrified with the Fear of that Distemper than himself had been, being 30 years of Age & upwards when he had them, that he had determined with himself to build a Cave in a piece of woodland, far from any House and there to remain until the Distemper was abated.

But while he thought of these Things one of his Family was siezed with the Infection, He therefore went immediately to D^{r} Bond and got himself inoculated and about the 7th Day after began with the Distemper attended with pain in the Back pain in the Head and oy^{r} the common symptoms of a Cold taken. That his Fever was low & not much exceeding that of drinking a Glass or 2 of Wine, extraordinary. That the Pocks came out at Times and then again retired upon which he sent to advise with D^{r} Bond concerning taken inflamatory Liquors in Order to promote their coming out; upon which the Doctor paid him a Visit told him there was all the Signs of a well Conditioned Pock, and Stricktly forbad the Taking any Spiritous or Inflamatory Liquors affirming that an indiscreet Use of them in the Hands of old Women had been the Death of Many Patients, who as he said unlike the Doctors who having killed one by mismanagem^{t} took particular care to destroy no more the same Way for the Future but they (the old Women) not instructed by the Slaughter of one nor of ten still persisted in the same Unhappy Method of Forcing an unnecessary N^{o} of the pocks out, and thereby greatly increased the Fever at their Turning w^{ch} had proved fatal to many and therefore willed him to be content with his proper share, which he observed, and had but a very inconsiderable N^{o} & came thro' them easily.

Hence it may be observed it is not the Fate of all who greatly fear the Small Pox to die wth them or even to have them severely.

He also told me that a few Drops of Cold Water now or then dropt into the Eyes of any person afflicted with them would infailably preserve the Sight from the Danger attending this Distemper. That such as took them in the Ordinary way—were hove down on the 13th & the inoculated on the 7th Day after.

I reacht home about 9 °Clock P. M.